

# Office of Governor Mitch Daniels

## November 1-7, 2008 Volume 3, Issue 3



# Weekly Update

### Report: Indiana Business Climate Fifth Best in Nation, Top in Midwest

November 7, 2008 - A national survey of real estate executives and a review of Indiana's record-breaking success in economic development scored the Hoosier state a top five finish nationally in *Site Selection* magazine's 2008 business climate survey.

Revealed in the November 2008 issue of the magazine, Indiana was the top place finisher in the Midwest and was the most improved state in the nation, moving up six places in the annual survey from eleventh place in 2007 to fifth place in 2008.

"In tough economic times, it's important to stand out, and now for about the fifth or sixth time this year, the world is reading that Indiana is the very best place to bring jobs," said Governor Mitch Daniels.

The annual business climate rankings are determined 50 percent by performance of the state in Conway Data's New Plant Database, which tracks new and expanded business facility activity, and 50 percent by a survey of corporate site seekers across the country. The survey asked companies to identify the top 10 state business climates, taking into consideration such factors as lack of red tape, financial assistance and government officials' cooperation. Respondents were also asked to rank the factors most important to them when determining a location for a new facility.

*Site Selection's* report of Indiana's economic improvement is the latest in a series of national accolades garnered by the state. In October, IBM named the Hoosier state as number one per capita for job attraction from international investment, and earlier this year CNBC named Indiana "the most improved state" for business. *Chief Executive* magazine named Indiana a "best place for business" in 2008, and *Forbes* magazine listed Indiana as the Midwest and sixth nationally for cost of doing business in its 2008 Best States for Business Index. The 2008 awards follow similar announcements in 2007 such as Ernst & Young Investment Monitor that found the Hoosier state to be number one in winning new competitive job-creating investments from all sources when measured on a per capita basis in both 2006 and 2007.

Indiana's award-winning efforts to attract new jobs and investment comes as the Indiana Economic Development Corporation is on pace for a fourth consecutive year of success. Since January, 137 businesses have committed to create 17,297 new jobs and invest more than \$4.1 billion in their Indiana operations. Despite the national economic slow down, the jobs-hunting agency is nearly at the same totals for job attraction as it was at this time in 2007.

Following the governor's creation of the agency in 2005, the state has logged three years of record-level attraction of new job-creating investment. Cumulatively since its inception, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation has worked with nearly 620 companies that have committed to create more than 76,000 new jobs and invest more than \$18.6 billion in their Indiana operations.

*Site Selection's* business climate survey story, as well as the publication's annual state legislative and incentives update, appears in the November 2008 edition of *Site Selection* and at [www.sitenet.com](http://www.sitenet.com).



*November 1, 2008- Governor Mitch Daniels stopped by a football tailgate outside Red Faught Stadium in Franklin where the Franklin College Grizzlies took on the Rose-Hulman Fightin' Engineers.*

To view past updates, click [here](#).

To visit Governor Daniels' Web site, click [here](#).

## 10 more counties approved for individual federal disaster assistance

November 6, 2008 - Governor Mitch Daniels has received word that President George W. Bush has approved 10 additional counties for federal assistance for homeowners, renters and business owners suffering damage from severe weather that began September 12.

The counties are Franklin, Gibson, Jasper, Ohio, Orange, Posey, Ripley, St. Joseph, Vanderburgh and Warrick.

A total of 30 counties have been designated for federal individual assistance. Previously designated counties are Clark, Crawford, Dearborn, Floyd, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Knox, Lake, LaPorte, Lawrence, Martin, Perry, Pike, Porter, Scott, Spencer, Switzerland and Washington counties. The state Department of Homeland Security has concluded damage assessments related to the September 12 storm.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) individual assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster. Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures statewide.

Residents and business owners who sustained losses in those counties can apply for FEMA assistance immediately by registering online at <http://www.fema.gov/assistance> or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free telephone numbers are available 24 hours a day.

## Governor and First Lady host trick-or-treaters at the Governor's Residence

October 31, 2008 – Governor Mitch Daniels and First Lady Cheri Daniels hosted trick-or-treaters at the Governor's Residence on Halloween night

The governor and first lady passed out assorted candy provided by four Indiana companies. Donations included milk chocolate bars from DeBrand Fine Chocolates of Fort Wayne; gummy candies and cinnamon squares from Mundt's Candies of Madison; chocolate-dipped pretzel rods from Schimpff's Confectionery of Jeffersonville; and chocolate-covered raisins, chocolate caramels and candy corn from Zachary's Confections, Inc. of Frankfort. Trick-or-treaters also received jump ropes from the Jump Kids Jump Movement® and Clarian Health.



October 31, 2008 – Governor Mitch Daniels and First Lady Cheri Daniels hosted trick-or-treaters at the Governor's Residence on Halloween night. The governor and first lady dressed in 1950's attire.



Did you know...

...new pictures are added to Governor Daniels' photo gallery every week? [Click here](#) for more!